

Dima Nachawi

To Dream is a Dialogue

Dima reads the quote “There is no life without dialogue.” And is instantly transported on a visual journey of her experiences starting a decade ago at the start of the Syrian revolution. This is demonstrated of her memories of the non-violent movement and in promoting dialogue between the people and government of Syria

As she takes a stroll down memory lane, her recollections take her to different cities and encounters with people from all over the world, each one with a unique but relative struggle. These figures are life changing and begin to serve her as monumental inspirations, which are depicted in each drawing as she visually recreates her interpretation of their struggles. From within her own story she realizes that they all collectively have different versions of the same struggle. She then finished the rest of the Camus quote and arrives to an epiphany derived by several recurring motifs in her experience highlighted below.

First and foremost is that a genuine call to dialogue is not defined simply by the act of non violence. As so evident in modern day politics, words or any form of expression, in this case visual, can be as instigating and provoking as bullets. The intentions and actions of those expressions is far more significant when it comes to achieving results and the non violence movement is not only a physical form movement but also a spiritual one guided by the intention of peace.

The second realization Dima has is that the life inspiring figures that transform her journey are mostly female. The Superheroes in fact are generally women, where this movement and form of non-violent movements has historically and culturally been practiced by women, they

have rarely been recognized in the Mediterranean until recent history. She brings to light the power of the female role in genuine dialogue as opposed to the general male dominated polemic.

The third epiphany is the human collective and its effect. She thinks about how media headlines highlight violence, drama and focus on polemic forms of expression.

The superheroes in the world that promote a peaceful change or co existence are rarely mentioned. What changes would take place or what accomplishments could be made if the media changed its narrative to focus on productive dialogue and positive actions? What if only figures and companies that benefited the human race were highlighted and bashed on the red headline banners over television screens? What if instead placing political blame only political praise was given?

The energy of the law of attraction be applied collectively to humanity and not only individually. If we as a collective focus and draw attention to positive factors, positive changes, positive dialogue and positive individuals then perhaps we can collectively attract the ideal world and peace that we all collectively desire.

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This project aims to dig into the dreams of women living in Mediterranean countries. They might be activists, artists, students, mothers ...etc.

This project is Inspired by my artwork: "Crushing War Planes with Her Hair" where it visualises my wish to stop the war in my country Syria. This wish was the main theme to several illustrations. Many women would have such dreams to change something essential in their lives or/and the life of others. Their dreams are the dialogue according to Albert Camus.